

**DRAFT OF 5/28/15****DPE Materials, Inc.  
Blaisdell Project  
Mining and Reclamation Plan**

**Purpose and Scope.** This Mining and Reclamation Plan (the Plan) describes the Blaisdell Pit Expansion Project (the Project) proposed by DPE Materials, Inc. (DPE). This Plan is submitted to comply with 43 CFR 3601, *Mineral Materials Disposal; General Provisions*.

**INTRODUCTION**

DPE is currently conducting aggregate mining, crushing and screening operations to manufacture materials for the construction industry on 77 acres of private land it owns near Blaisdell in Yuma County. DPE is seeking a Contract for the Sale of Mineral Materials to mine aggregate and other rock materials from 20.25 acres of adjacent BLM land. DPE is required to pay for the mineral materials removed and to operate under a Mining and Reclamation Plan as required by 43 CFR 3601. The location of DPE's existing plant and pit and the proposed Project is shown in Figure 1, Location Map.

The existing plant on DPE's private land would be used to process aggregate from the BLM land. Unsold fines (undersize material and silt) would be used to fill mined-out portions of the pit. Access to DPE's existing plant is via County 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Rifle Range Road to State Route 95, a distance of about 0.8 mile, as shown in Figure 1. Water for dust control and aggregate washing would be obtained from an existing well on DPE's private land.

The Project would extract and process between 150,000 and 225,000 tons per year (tpy) of rock and aggregates.

The Project would begin immediately and continue for 10 years with expected renewal for another five years. Reclamation of disturbed areas would be done when those areas are no longer needed for operations.

**A. OPERATOR INFORMATION**

The operator is:

DPE Materials, Inc.  
1636 E 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Yuma, AZ 85365  
Fax: (928) 343-1016  
Business Phone: (928)783-7885

DPE's EIN is: 27-0006599

The operator's representative is Mr. Don Peterson, PE, President of DPE Materials, Inc., whose contact information is given above.

## **B. PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION**

The Project lies on the pediment of the Gila Mountains, sloping gently westward toward the South Gila Valley. The Project area covers 20.25 acres, 10 acres in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 27 and 10.25 acres in the SW ¼ of Section 22, T8S, R21W, G&SRB&M, as shown in Figure 2, Sheets 1 and 2. The Project is bordered on the south, east and north by undeveloped desert, and on the west by DPE's existing pit and undeveloped desert. The present channel of the Gila River lies about two miles northwest of the Project.

The Project and surrounding area is shown in the Fortuna USGS 1:24,000 scale map.

## **C. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED METHODS OF OPERATION**

DPE would mine the aggregate by ripping and pushing it to the grizzly feeder using a dozer. At the feeder it would be loaded onto the pit conveyor and conveyed to the plant for processing. The conveyor and feeder would be moved into the BLM land as needed to keep the dozer push short. Waste stripping is generally not required because little overburden is present. Rock too hard for ripping would be blasted by a blasting contractor.

In the future, DPE may mine portions of the material by digging it with an excavator and loading it into haul trucks. The trucks would haul the material to the grizzly feeder, where it would be loaded onto the pit conveyor and conveyed to the plant.

The slope in the mining area would be developed to 2:1 or flatter for pushing efficiency and slope stability. The maximum depth of the pit would be about 150'. Figure 3 shows conceptual plan and elevation views of the mining operation.

Equipment planned for use on BLM land would be:

- 1 dozer
- 1 excavator
- 2-3 thirty-five ton off-road haul trucks
- 1 wheel loader
- 1 grizzly feeder
- 1 pit conveyor
- ancillary mobile equipment including a drill, water truck, and pick-up trucks.

Existing equipment on DPE's private land that would be used to process the material and support the operation would include:

- 1 crushing/screening plant with crushers, screens, internal conveyors, stackers and a diesel engine

- 1 secondary screening plant with conveyors and stackers
- 1 wash plant
- 1 truck scale
- 1 diesel generator set
- 1 power line with pole-mounted transformers
- 1 office/scale house 40'x8' with concrete pad
- 1 welding shed with concrete pad
- 1 storage building
- 1 septic system
- 1 10,000 gal. fuel tank with concrete enclosure
- 1 12,500 gallon water tank with concrete pad
- 1 1100 cu. ft. dry material silo
- 2 ponds for sedimentation and wash water recycling
- Product and fines stockpiles

A mechanic's truck and mobile crane would be used to maintain mobile and fixed equipment as needed.

Samples of rock products are tested from time to time using standard ASTM tests to ensure that the rock meets specifications for the intended use. Tests could include screen analysis, abrasion, hardness, etc.

DPE plans to begin mining on BLM land as soon as the sale is approved. DPE would operate eight to ten hours per day, five days per week. Mining on BLM land is expected to be complete within 15 years.

#### **D. MEASURES TO PREVENT HAZARDS TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY AND TO MINIMIZE AND MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE**

Public access to DPE's property is restricted by fences and berms. Entry is controlled by a gate near the office. Primary access to the Project is through DPE's property. Several rough tracks across adjacent land pass through the Project but access is limited due to steep topography. DPE will build berms across these tracks and post signs to discourage public entry to the Project.

Explosives would be brought to the site on the day of the blast and would not be stored on site. Blasting would be done in accordance with MSHA regulations and the Mining Code of the State of Arizona. Blasting would be done during working hours when noise is least noticeable

A water truck would be used as needed to control dust in the mining area. Water sprays are used to control dust in the plant.

Native plants are scarce, concentrated along larger washes that are not included in the area to be mined. Salvageable cacti and trees would be salvaged and relocated in compliance with Arizona Department of Agriculture regulations.

Soil and overburden, if present, would be pushed into piles adjacent to the mining area for use in reclamation.

The mined surface will be sloped toward DPE's existing pit. Runoff from the disturbed area would be captured in the pit for evaporation or infiltration.

## **E. RECLAMATION**

At the end of the Project, up to 20 acres of BLM land will have been disturbed. The disturbed area, which is the planned final pit, is shown in Figure 4. The actual pit may be smaller if uneconomic rock is encountered.

DPE would leave the pit slopes at the 2:1 or flatter "as mined" slopes. The Arizona State Mine Inspector considers slopes of 2:1 to be stable. Salvaged soil, if any, would be spread on adjacent disturbed areas.

Fines disposed of in the pit bottom over the course of the operation would be left in a hummocky condition to encourage natural revegetation. Runoff from disturbed areas would be directed into the pit to infiltrate or evaporate.

The pit crest would be fenced with a four-strand barbed wire fence on driven T posts that would be tied into the existing fence around the DPE property. About 3500' of fence would be required. The estimated installed cost of 3,500' of four strand barbed wire fence is \$14,000<sup>1</sup>.

Equipment and facilities would be removed within 30 days of the cessation of mining or end of the sale, whichever occurs earlier.

## **F. PERIODS OF NONOPERATION**

If a period of nonoperation exceeding three months is anticipated, DPE would move equipment into a storage area on DPE's private property. DPE would notify the BLM Yuma Field Office of the planned closure date and anticipated duration.

## **G. PERMITS**

DPE operates under Air Quality Control Permit #61543.

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<sup>1</sup> Utah State University Extension Service, <http://extension.usu.edu/smac/uploads/Fencing.http>

DPE is registered with the Arizona Mine Inspector's Office and the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), ID #02-02470).

DPE is exempt from county building codes under the State Mining and Metallurgical Exemption, ARS 11-830. The Project is located within FEMA FIRM map 04027C1560F, panel 1560. It is not within a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area or Floodway and is not subject to regulation by the Yuma County Flood Control District.

An Aquifer Protection Permit is not required because DPE does not operate a facility that *“discharges a pollutant either directly to an aquifer, to the land surface or the vadose zone in such a manner that there is a reasonable probability that the pollutant would reach an aquifer.”* ARS 49.201.11.

Operations associated with the Project are located on uplands and are not subject to regulation by the Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

DPE MATERIALS, INC.

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Don Peterson, President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PREPARED BY:**

MINING & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC.

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Fred B. Brost, P.E., President